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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: MICHAEL S. FOSTER *ET AL.*
APPLICATION NO.: 10/046,572
FILED: OCTOBER 26, 2001
FOR: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR
INTERSWITCH DEADLOCK AVOIDANCE
IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**

EXAMINER: JASON E. MATTIS
ART UNIT: 2665
CONF. NO: 4162

RECEIVED

FEB 03 2004

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The present communication responds to the Office Action dated November 6, 2003 in the above-identified application. Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Drawings are reflected in an attached replacement sheet and are discussed on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3.

Arguments/Remarks begin on page 8.